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REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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**SUBJECT** Crude Oil Resources in Thuringia

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1. Twenty of the 30 probe drillings for oil made in Thuringia at places at which tectonic structures indicated the possible existence of crude oil, were made in the Volkenroda area and in the Volkenroda potassium mines near Bleicherode, five kilometers southwest of Nordhausen, in which transversal borings revealed a crude oil deposit of about 40,000 tons. The other borings in Thuringia remained without positive result.
2. Exploitation of the oil resources in the Volkenroda mines was postponed and only samples were taken, because oil drillings would inevitably affect the subsoil water level, and possibly bring to an end the potassium production. Since this production was considered of primary interest, [ ] drillings for the comparatively small quantities of oil would not start before complete exploitation of the mines. [ ] unable to estimate the quantities of potassium salts still available there, but believed that the oil production would not start for the next few years.
3. Some of the bore holes in the Volkenroda potassium mines emitted natural gases which were directed to one main line and were utilized as fuel for the boilers of the Volkenroda potassium plant. The output of gas was unknown, but was not believed to be of more than local importance.

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